

Data, Information and Knowledge in Healthcare

Centre for Health Informatics

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Runs: 3 hours
Tutor: Prof John Chelsom
Mode of attendance: Classroom

Learning Objectives

- This session provides an overview of data, information and knowledge in healthcare.
- Specific learning objectives are to:
 - 1 Define data, information and knowledge
 - 2 Understand the basic building blocks of data used in healthcare
 - 3 See how data is used to create patient information in clinical records
 - 4 Describe how information and knowledge can be combined for clinical decision making

Data, Information and Knowledge in Healthcare

- Data, information and knowledge
- Foundations of clinical data
- Patient data and clinical records
- Information and knowledge for clinical decisions
- References and Further Reading

Information Sources

- Sources are listed in the references at the end of these slides



Some definitions have been taken from <http://thefreedictionary.com>.

Retrieved September 2010.

Where consensus on definitions or descriptions is required, these have been taken from Wikipedia.

Retrieved September 2010.

Data, information and knowledge

Data, Information and Knowledge

Data are individual measurements, values or terms

Data

Information is a collection of interrelated data with meaningful context

Information

Information with context for applying it in the real world.

Knowledge

The patient is a male, date of birth 20/01/1957 with blood pressure 140/85 and total cholesterol of 220 mg/dL.



The risk of coronary heart disease is raised significantly for patients with high blood pressure ($\geq 130/85$) and raised cholesterol (≥ 200 mg/dL).

220 male
20/01/1957
140/85

Clinical Data

Data (plural of "datum") are typically the results of measurements and can be the basis of graphs, images, or observations of a set of variables.

Data are often viewed as the lowest level of abstraction from which information and knowledge are derived. Raw data refers to a collection of numbers, characters, images or other outputs from devices that collect information to convert physical quantities into symbols, that are unprocessed.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data>

Forms of clinical data

- Smells
- Sounds
- Spoken words
- Text (written and electronic)
- Numbers
- Drawing
- Images – static, moving
- 3D solids – palpation

Sources of clinical data

- Patient themselves
- Carer, relative, friend, other informant
- Clinician
- Allied health professionals
- Laboratory
- Radiology dept. (imaging)
- Past records

Clinical Information

- There are various ways, and no simple way, to define the concept of information.

Records are a specialized form of information. Essentially, records are information produced consciously or as by-products of business activities or transactions and retained because of their value.

Primarily their value is as evidence of the activities of the organization but they may also be retained for their informational value.

Sound records management ensures that the integrity of records is preserved for as long as they are required.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information>

- Using this definition, we could consider *clinical information* to be synonymous with *clinical records*.

Clinical Knowledge

Knowledge is defined by the Oxford English Dictionary as

(i) expertise, and skills acquired by a person through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject;

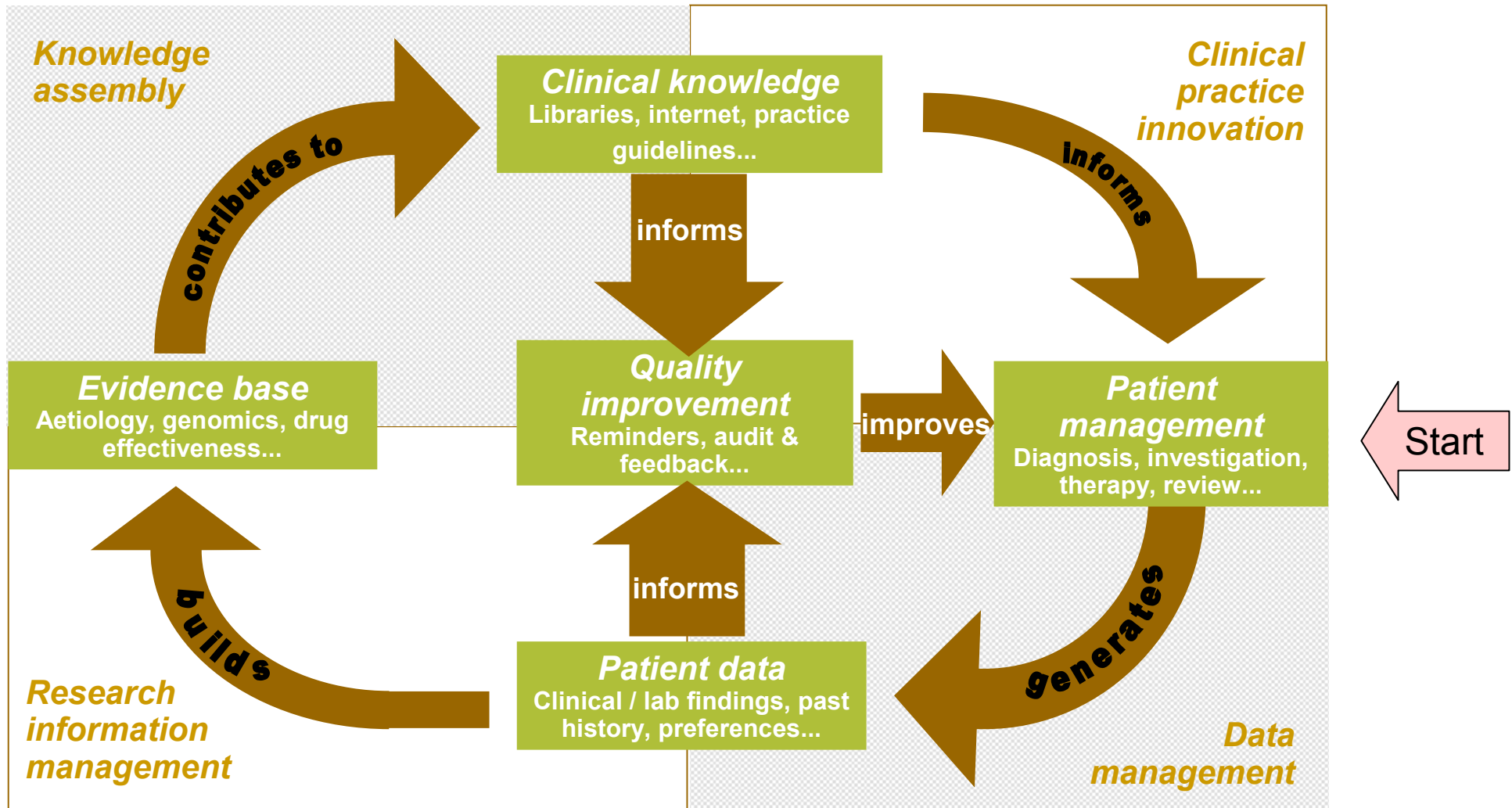
(ii) what is known in a particular field or in total; facts and information;

or (iii) awareness or familiarity gained by experience of a fact or situation.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knowledge>

- Clinical knowledge can take the (executable) form of
 - Taxonomy and classification (clinical coding)
 - Protocols and guidelines
 - Evidence-based Medicine (EBM)
 - Integrated Care Pathways

Clinical information cycles to support quality cycles



Source: NHS Connecting for Health

Foundations of clinical data

Data Types and Formats

In computer programming, a data type (or datatype) is a classification identifying one of various types of data, such as floating-point, integer, or Boolean, stating the possible values for that type, the operations that can be done on that type, and the way the values of that type are stored.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Data_type

Nineteen
primitive
types in the
XML standard

www.w3.org

- **string**
- **boolean**
- **base64binary**
- **hexBinary**
- **float**
- **decimal**
- **double**
- **anyURI**
- **Qname**
- **NOTATION**

- **duration**
- **dateTime**
- **time**
- **date**
- **gYearMonth**
- **gYear**
- **gMonthDay**
- **gDay**
- **gMonth**

Units of Measurement

The Unified Code for Units of Measure is a code system intended to include all units of measures being contemporarily used in international science, engineering, and business.

The purpose is to facilitate unambiguous electronic communication of quantities together with their units. The focus is on electronic communication, as opposed to communication between humans.

A typical application of The Unified Code for Units of Measure are electronic data interchange (EDI) protocols...

<http://unitsofmeasure.org/>

Table 26: Example Unit Terms by Term

unit term	suggested alternatives	name or "reading"	example use	canonical form value	canonical form unit
/arb{U}		per arbitrary unit		1	1
/[HPF]		per high power field		1	1
/[IU]		per international unit		1	1
/[tot]		per total count		1	1
/g{creat}	/g	per gram of creatinine		1	g-1
/g{HGB}	/g	per gram of hemoglobin		1	g-1
/g{tot'nit}	/g	per gram of total nitrogen		1	g-1
/g{tot'ptot}	/g	per gram of total protein		1	g-1
/g{wet'tis}	/g	per gram of wet tissue		1	g-1
/kg		per kilogram		0.001	g-1
/kg{body'wt}	/kg	per kilogram body weight		1000	g-1
/L		per liter		1000	m-3
/m3		per square meter		1	m-3
/min		per minute		0.0166666666666667	s-1
/mL		per milliliter		1000000	m-3
/mL		per milliliter		1000000	m-3

Example from HL7 v2.4
for clinical messaging

Data Constraints

- There may be constraints on the values data items can take, or between data items
 - Which arguably turns these data into information, or even knowledge
- For example
 - Age measured in years, must be a positive integer
 - Age can be derived from Date of Birth and Current Date
 - If sex is 'male' then surgical procedure cannot be hysterectomy

Data Properties

- As well as data type, units and constraints, the set of properties we may want to model in a clinical data item include

data type

units of measurement

constraints

plausible range (including list of enumerated values)

occurrence

optional/required

clinical coding

conditions of applicability

calculated value (how is it derived from others)

default value

pre-filled (initial) value

reference range

Data Behaviour

- Data items may also display certain behaviour when users interact with them
- Including different behaviour depending on the user and the clinical context

format (of display/presentation)

including media for display

method of entry

e.g. date picker, autocomplete, drop-down

collation (sort order)

categorisation

CRUD

create, read, update, delete

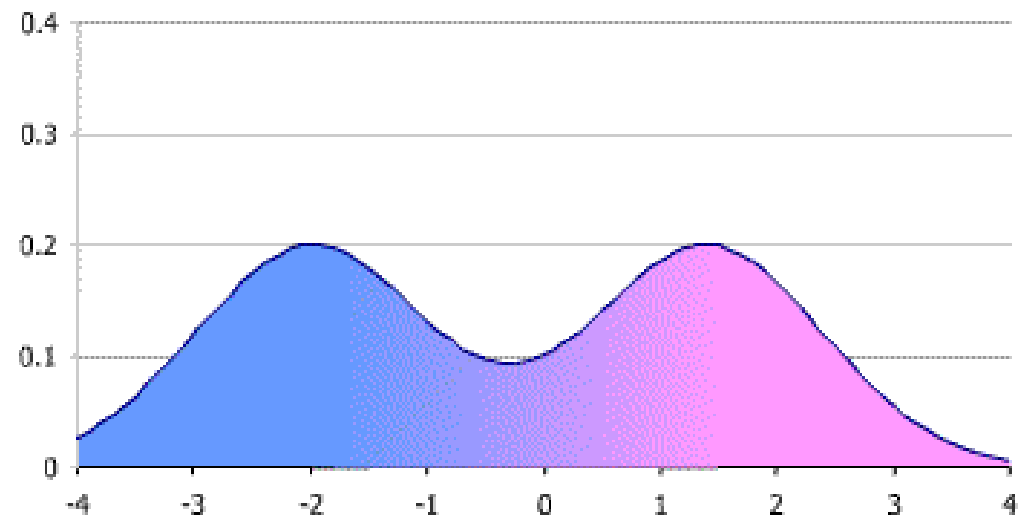
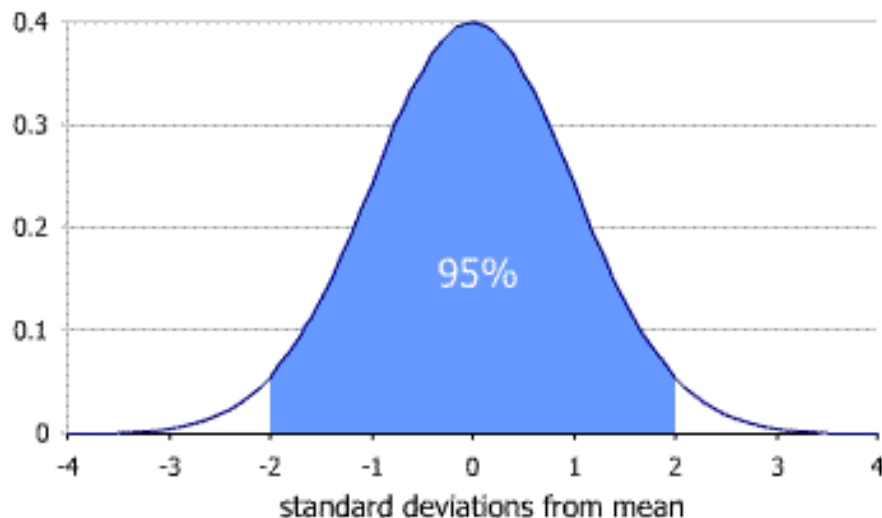
optional/required (might be considered a property)

Reference Ranges

In health-related fields, a reference range (or reference values or interval) is a set of values of some measurement that a physician or other health professional can use to interpret a set of results for a particular patient. It is determined by collecting data from vast numbers of laboratory tests.

A reference range for a particular test or measurement, is usually defined as the prediction interval of values that 95% (or 2 standard deviations) of the population fall into. It relies on the fact that for many biological phenomena, there is a normal distribution of values.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reference_ranges



Clinical Data Sets

Today, much electronic patient information is available in operational data systems (for example, laboratory systems, pharmacy systems, and surgical scheduling systems) and is accessible by agencies and organizations through standards for messages, codes, and encrypted electronic mail.

Such agencies and organizations should define the elements of their data sets in terms of standardized operational data, and data producers should fully adopt these code and message standards.

McDonald et al [8]

- Clinical Data Sets for
 - Collection of patient information
 - Order sets
 - Results sets
 - Medications (formulary)

Clinical Data Sets in the NHS

The development of data sets supports:

- information requirements of national and local performance management, planning and clinical governance
- assurance of the quality of health and social care services
- the monitoring of National Service Frameworks (NSFs)

The information in the Clinical Data Sets is transmitted at patient level.

http://www.datadictionary.nhs.uk/web_site_content/navigation/clinical_data_sets_menu.asp

Use the URL above to access the lists and screen shots on the following slides, retrieved October 2010.

Coverage of NHS Data Sets

- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Cancer Registration
- Diabetes (Summary Core)
- Genitourinary Medicine Clinic Activity
- Mental Health
- National Cancer
- National Cancer Waiting Times Monitoring
- National Joint Registry
- Radiotherapy
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity

Example of an NHS Data Set

Hide Navigation | Contact Us | Help
NHS Data Model and Dictionary Service
Connecting for Health

Main Menu > Clinical Data Sets Menu >

Search

Clinical Data Sets Menu

- Acute Myocardial Infarction
- Cancer Registration
- Diabetes (Summary Core)
- Genitourinary Medicine Clinic Activity
- Mental Health
- National Cancer
- National Cancer Waiting Times Monitoring
- National Joint Registry
- Radiotherapy
- Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity
- Message Documentation**
- Mental Health Minimum Data Set Message Schema Versions

Acute Myocardial Infarction Data Set Overview

ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION DATA SET

By clicking on the date element text within the data set opposite, the selected data element definition will be displayed.

Any text within the displayed definition which is in blue and uppercase, is the name of a class, attribute or data element; business definitions appear in Title Case and all if clicked on will display the definition for that class, attribute, data element or business definition.

Data Set Data Elements	MINAP FIELD PROMPT (Myocardial Infarction Audit Project)
CCAD HOSPITAL IDENTIFIER	Hospital Identifier
LOCAL PATIENT IDENTIFIER	Patient Care Record Number
NHS NUMBER	NHS Number
PERSON FAMILY NAME	Patient Surname
PERSON GIVEN NAME	Patient Forename
BIRTH DATE	Patient date of Birth
SEX	Patient Gender
PATIENT CLINICAL GROUP	Patient Ethnic Group
ADMINISTRATIVE CATEGORY	Patient Admin Status
POSTCODE OF USUAL ADDRESS	Patient Post Code
GENERAL MEDICAL PRACTICE CODE (PATIENT REGISTRATION)	GP Practice Code
AMI ADMISSION DIAGNOSIS	Admission Diagnosis
INITIAL CONTACT TYPE	Method of Admission
ECG DETERMINING TREATMENT	ECG Determining Treatment
ASPIRIN THERAPY LOCATION	Where was Aspirin Given
PERSON OBSERVATION HISTORY (PREVIOUS AMI)	Previous AMI
PERSON OBSERVATION HISTORY (PREVIOUS ANGINA)	Previous Angina
PERSON OBSERVATION HISTORY (HYPERTENSION)	Hypertension
PERSON OBSERVATION HISTORY (HYPERCHOLESTEROLAEMIA)	Hypercholesterolaemia

Data Item - Description

PERSON FAMILY NAME

Related DSCN/ISN

Description Where Used

Format/length: max 35 characters
HES item:
National Codes:
Default Codes:

Notes:

That part of a **PERSON**'s name which is used to describe family, clan, tribal group, or marital association.

PERSON FAMILY NAME is the same as **PERSON NAME WORD TEXT** where the **PERSON NAME WORD TYPE** equals '*b. Person Family Name*'.

This is the **e-Government Interoperability Framework (e-GIF)** standard that should be used for all new and developing systems and for XML messages.

References:

The **e-GIF** version approved for use in NHS England is:

Government Data Standards Catalogue (GDSC), Version 2.0, Agreed 1 January 2002.

GDSC: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/govtalk/schemasstandards/e-gif/datastandards.aspx>.

This data element is also known by these names:

Context	Alias
formerly	PATIENT FAMILY OR SURNAME
plural	PERSON FAMILY NAMES

Data Item – Where Used

PERSON FAMILY NAME Related DSCN/ISN

Description Where Used

Where used:

Data Set	Acute Myocardial Infarction Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Set	Cancer Registration Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Set	Inter-Provider Transfer Administrative Minimum Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Set	National Cancer Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Set	National Joint Registry Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Set	National Workforce Data Set	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	FAMILY OR SURNAME OF RELATION WITH CANCER	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	PERSON FAMILY NAME	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	PERSON FAMILY NAME (AT BIRTH)	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	PERSON FULL NAME	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	PERSON FULL NAME (CLINICAL SUPERVISOR LATEST)	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME
Data Element	PERSON FULL NAME (EDUCATIONAL SUPERVISOR LATEST)	references in description PERSON FAMILY NAME

Model for a Data Item

Taken from cityEHR which uses HL7 CDA as its representation for recorded data.

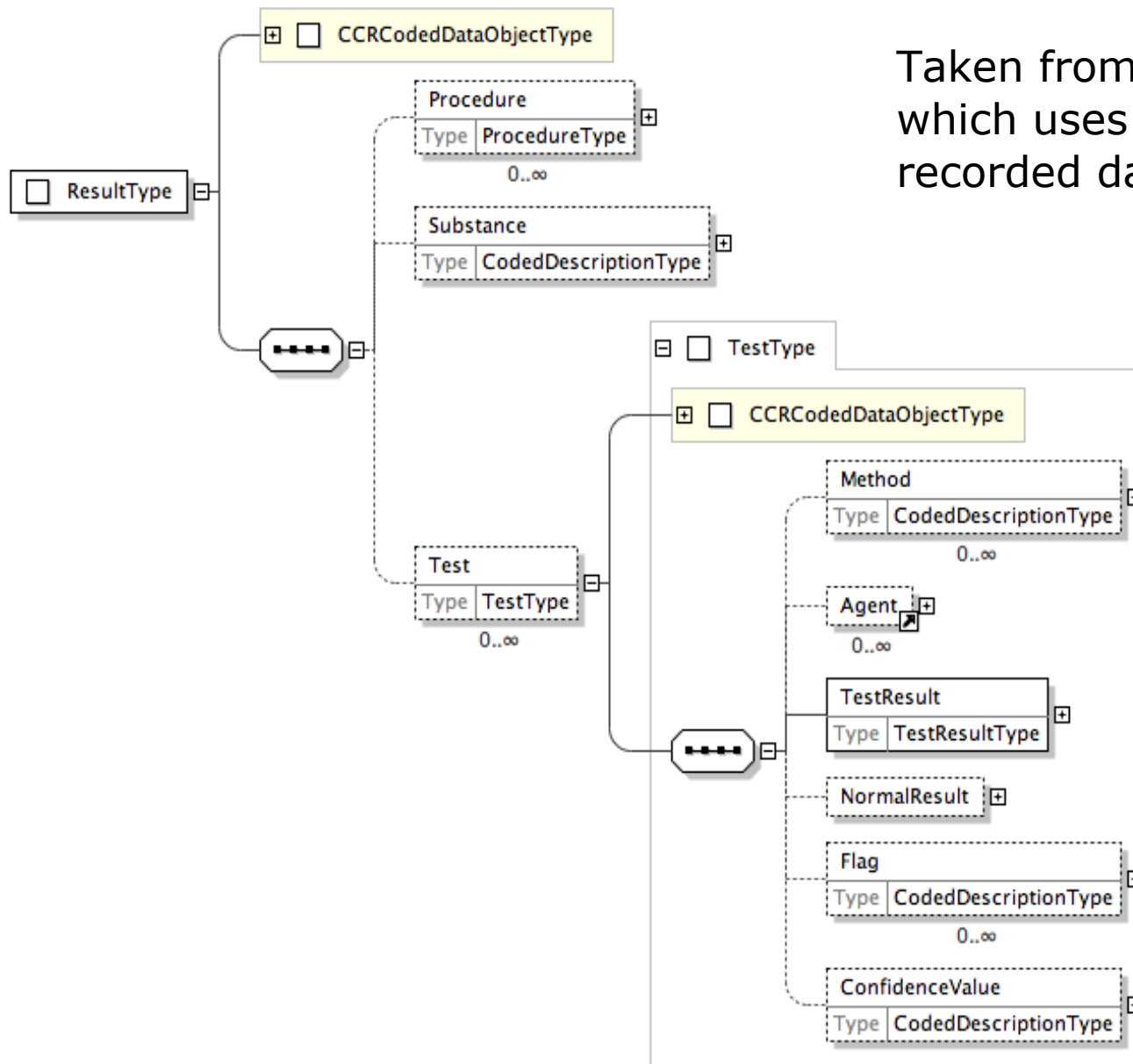
Lifestyle

Level Of Mobility	
Walking for a quarter of a mile	unable to do
Walking up 10 steps without resting	some difficulty
Stooping, crouching or kneeling	much difficulty
Doing chores around the house	unable to do
Walking from one room to another on the same level	unable to do
Getting in or out of bed	-- Select Value --

Smoking Habits	
Current smoker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
How many cigarettes per day	10

```
<entry cityEHR:layout="Unranked" cityEHR:rendition="#CityEHR:EntryProperty:Form" cityEHR:initialValue="#CityEHR:EntryProperty:Default"
cityEHR:labelWidth="27" cityEHR:conditions="" cityEHR:visibility="">
  <observation>
    <typeid root="cityEHR" extension="#HL7-CDA:Observation"/>
    <id root="#ISO-13606:Entry:CigarettesPerDay" extension="#ISO-13606:Entry:CigarettesPerDay" cityEHR:origin=""/>
    <code code="xxxx" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.2.1.3.2.4.15" displayName="How many cigarettes per day"/>
    <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:NumberPerDay" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:NumberPerDay"
xsi:type="xs:integer" value="" units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName=""
cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType" cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional"
cityEHR:fieldLength="3" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:defaultValue="10"/>
  </observation>
</entry>
```


Model for a Laboratory Test Result



Taken from the Continuity of Care Record which uses an XML representation for recorded data.

Model for a Laboratory Test Result

Taken from cityEHR which uses HL7 CDA as its representation for recorded data.

Laboratory Test Results +

Measurement date	Test Name	Measurement
05-9-2011	Potassium (K)	(mmol/L)
05-9-2011	Urea	(mmol/L)
05-9-2011	Pyruvate	(μ mol/L)

<observation>

```
<typeid root="cityEHR" extension="#HL7-CDA:Observation"/>
```

```
<id root="#ISO-13606:Entry:LabResults" extension="#ISO-13606:Entry:LabResults" cityEHR:origin=""/>
```

```
<code code="xxxx" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.2.1.3.2.4.15" displayName="Laboratory Test Results"/>
```

```
<value root="#ISO-13606:Element:MeasurementDate" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:MeasurementDate"
```

```
xsi:type="xs:date" value="" units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Measurement date" cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType" cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:defaultValue="current-date()"/>
```

```
<value root="#ISO-13606:Element:LabTest" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:LabTest" xsi:type="xs:string"
```

```
value="" units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Test Name"
```

```
cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:enumeratedClass"
```

```
cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined"
```

```
orchid:coreDataSet="" cityEHR:elementControllId=""/>
```

```
<value root="#ISO-13606:Element:LabTestResult" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:LabTestResult"
```

```
xsi:type="xs:double" value="" units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Measurement"
```

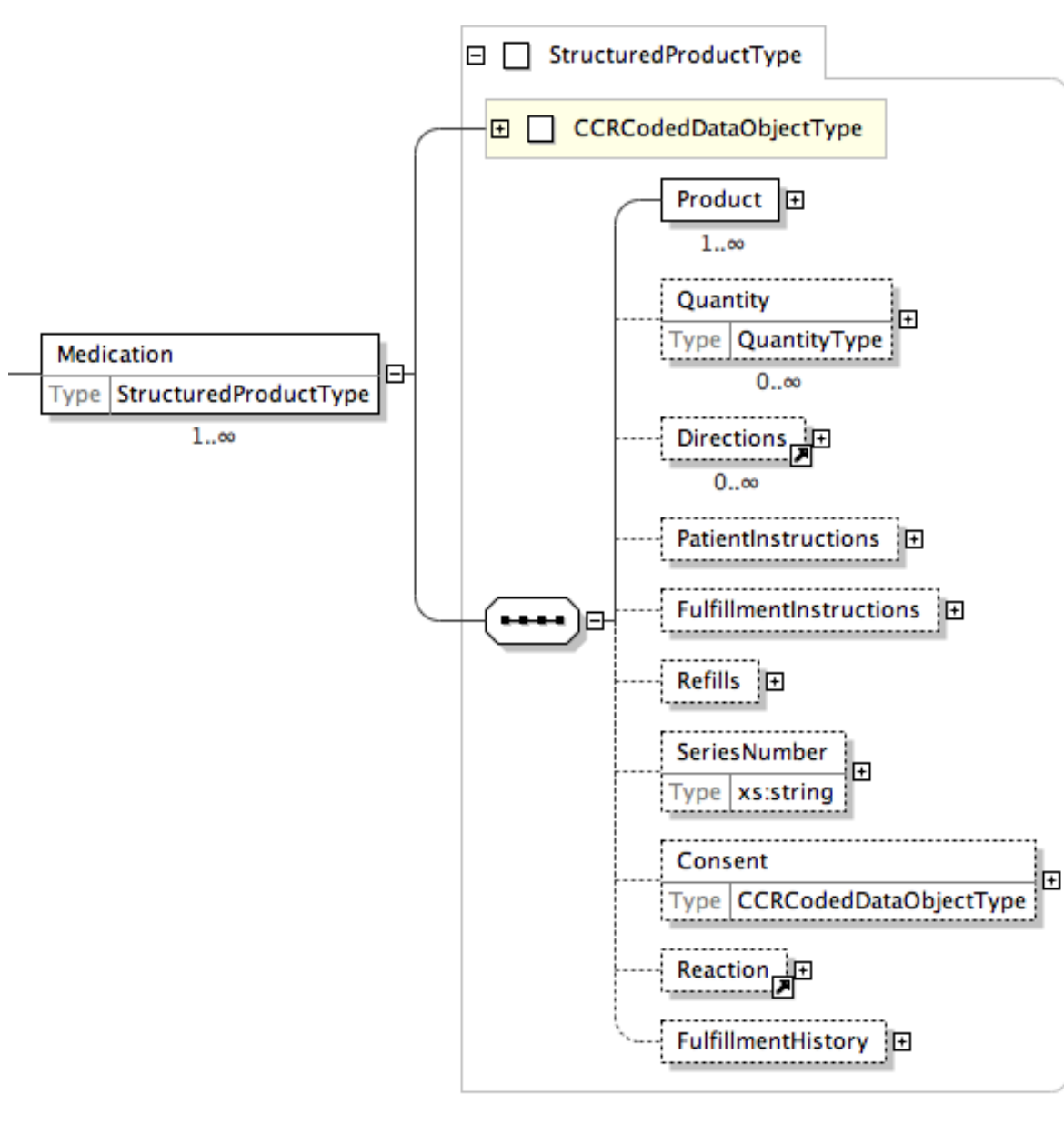
```
cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType" cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional"
```

```
cityEHR:fieldLength="6" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:calculatedUnit="#ISO-
```

```
13606:Element:LabTest"/>
```

```
</observation>
```

Model for Medication



Taken from the Continuity of Care Record which uses an XML representation for recorded data.

Model for Medication

Medications				
<i>Current Medication</i> +				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Drug name</i>	<i>Start date</i>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alendronate	05-6-2007		
<i>Previous Medication</i> +				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Drug name</i>	<i>Start date</i>	<i>Stop date</i>	<i>Reason for stopping</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prednisolone	07-9-2009	06-8-2013	Finished course of treatment

```

<observation>
  <typeid root="cityEHR" extension="#HL7-CDA:Observation"/>
  <id root="#ISO-13606:Entry:Medication" extension="#ISO-13606:Entry:Medication" cityEHR:origin=""/>
  <code code="xxxx" codeSystem="2.16.840.1.113883.2.1.3.2.4.15" displayName="Medication"/>
  <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:DrugStopped" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:DrugStopped" xsi:type="xs:boolean" value="false"
units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Stopped" cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType"
cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined"/>
  <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:DrugName" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:DrugName" xsi:type="xs:string" value="" units=""
code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Drug name" cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:enumeratedClass"
cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" orchid:coreDataSet=""
cityEHR:elementControllId=""/>
  <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:StartDate" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:StartDate" xsi:type="xs:date" value="" units="" code=""
codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Start date" cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType"
cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:defaultValue="current-
date()"/>
  <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:StopDate" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:StopDate" xsi:type="xs:date" value="" units="" code=""
codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Stop date" cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType"
cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional" cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:conditions=""
cityEHR:visibility=""/>
  <value root="#ISO-13606:Element:StoppingReason" extension="#ISO-13606:Element:StoppingReason" xsi:type="xs:string" value=""
units="" code="" codeSystem="" displayName="" cityEHR:elementDisplayName="Reason for stopping"
cityEHR:elementType="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:simpleType" cityEHR:valueRequired="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Optional"
cityEHR:elementScope="#CityEHR:ElementProperty:Defined" cityEHR:conditions="" cityEHR:visibility=""/>
</observation>

```

Patient data and clinical records

Contents of a Clinical Record

Medical History

- Surgical history
- Obstetric history
- Allergies
- Medications
- Family history
- Social history
- Habits
- Immunisation history
- Growth chart and development history

Demographics

- Patient identifiers
- Name
- Address
- Sex
- Ethnicity
- Religion
- Occupation
- Next of kin
- Primary care physician

Clinical Correspondence

- Referral letters
- Discharge summaries
- Clinic letters

Orders and Prescriptions

- Lab (Pathology) tests
- Radiology (images)
- Drug prescriptions
- Ancillary services

Test Results

- Lab test results
- Diagnostic images
(Radiology reports)

Medical Encounters

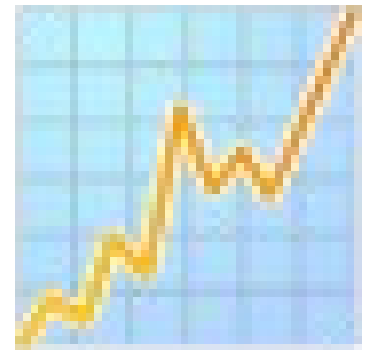
- Complaint
- History of current illness
- Physical examination
- Assessment and plan

Progress Notes

- Daily updates on patient condition during a period of hospitalisation

Transient Clinical Data

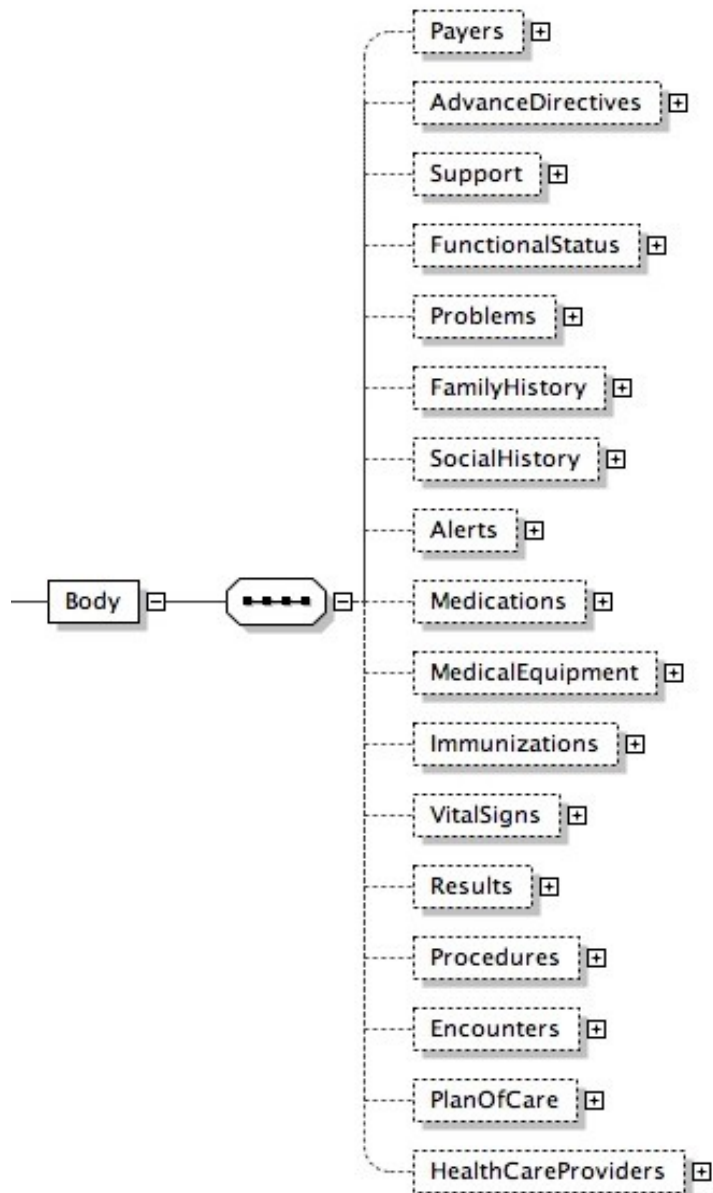
- Some patient information is recorded and stored only for a short time in a clinical record
 - Vital Signs: Body Temperature, Pulse Rate(Heart Rate), Blood Pressure and Respiratory Rate.
 - Intake: Medication, Fluid, Nutrition, Water and Blood, etc.
 - Output: Blood, Urine, Excrement, Vomitus and Sweat, etc.
 - Observation on Pupil size.
 - Capability of four limbs of body



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medical_record

CCR – Record Sections

The main body of the clinical record in CCR consists of 17 sections



Clinical Documentation and Generic Record Standard (CDGRS)

[Home](#)

[Search catalogue](#)

[Systems](#)

▼ [Clinical Record Standards](#)

[Joint Working Group Report on Professional Requirements](#)

[Electronic 24-hour discharge summary implementation](#)

[National Clinical Content Repository \(NCCR\)](#)

[Mental Health Discharge Summary collaboration](#)

[About the CDSA programme](#)

▶ [Clinical documentation and generic records standards](#)

Clinical Documentation and Generic Record Standard (CDGRS)

The latest versions of the [healthcare record standards](#) have been signed off by the [Academy of Medical Royal Colleges](#) (AoMRC). Standards for admission, handover, discharge, outpatient and referral records and communications are now freely available under Open Government License (OGL) to develop and implement electronic health and social care records.

In 2010, the [Clinical Data Standards Assurance Programme](#) awarded a contract (following an open competition) to the [Royal College of Physicians](#) (RCP) for the phases two and three of the Clinical Documentation and Generic Record Standard (CDGRS) project.

Phase 2 of the project delivered:

- outpatients headings;
- generic editorial principles; and
- prioritised core clinical headings.

Phase 3 of the project delivered referral letters headings and a review of the consistency across the record standards for the following areas:

- hospital admission;
- hospital handover;
- discharge summary; and
- referral and outpatient letters with alignment to core headings.

Source: <http://systems.hscic.gov.uk/clinrecords/cdgrs>

Logical Record Architecture

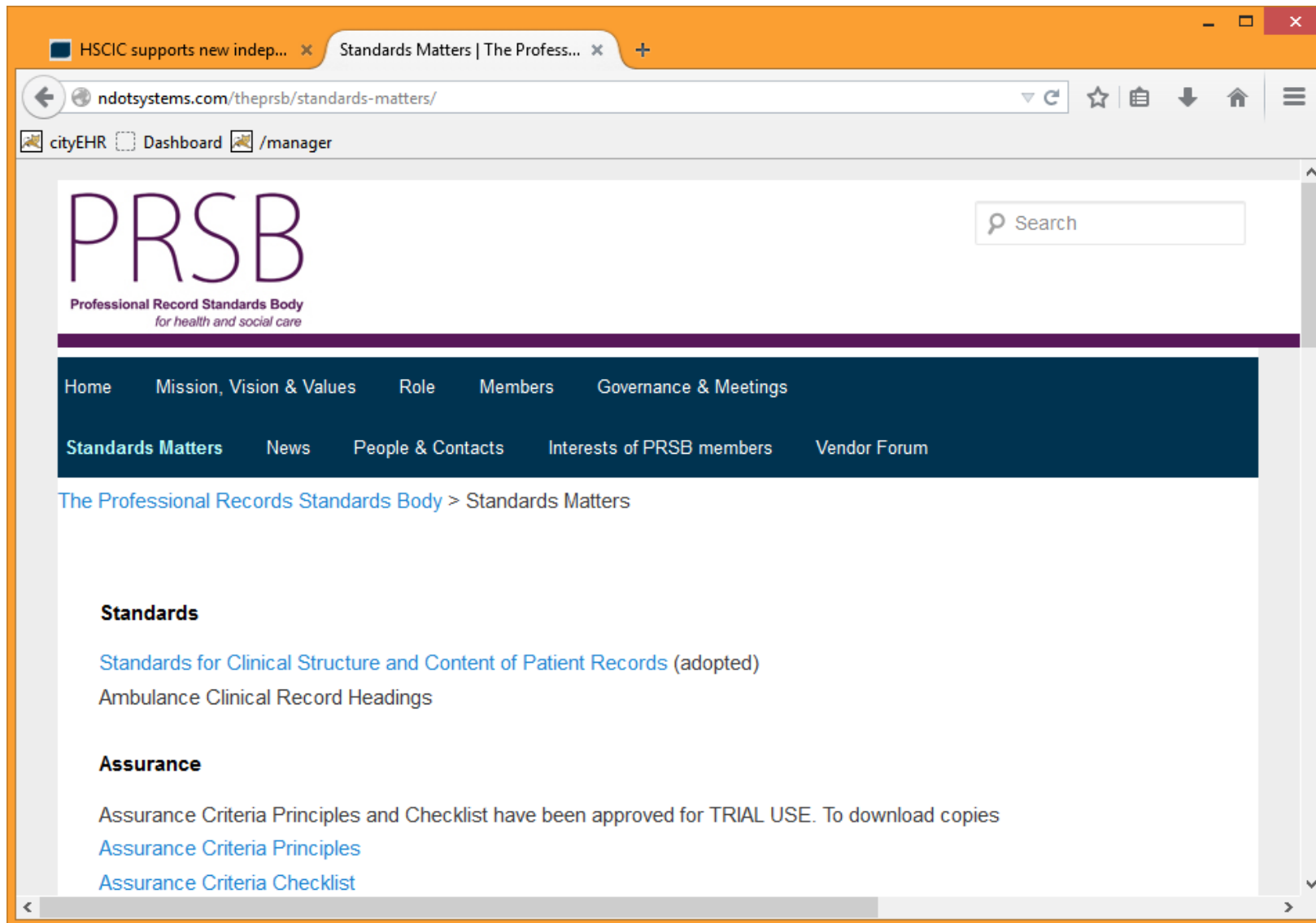
Logical Record Architecture for Health and Social Care.

The LRA was established as part of the informatics data standards programme set up following the publication of High Quality Care For All, the Next Stage Review final report by Lord Darzi and the Health Informatics Review Report.

The LRA is designed to allow better information sharing. It describes what data should be shared across multiple applications and how data will be managed, accessed and interpreted between independent information systems.

Source: <http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/data/lra>

Professional Records Standards Body



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL ndotystems.com/theprsb/standards-matters/. The page features the PRSB logo (Professional Record Standards Body for health and social care) and a search bar. The navigation menu includes: Home, Mission, Vision & Values, Role, Members, Governance & Meetings, Standards Matters (highlighted), News, People & Contacts, Interests of PRSB members, and Vendor Forum. The breadcrumb trail reads: The Professional Records Standards Body > Standards Matters. The main content area is divided into two sections: **Standards**, which includes links for [Standards for Clinical Structure and Content of Patient Records \(adopted\)](#) and [Ambulance Clinical Record Headings](#); and **Assurance**, which includes a notice that Assurance Criteria Principles and Checklist have been approved for TRIAL USE, with links to [Assurance Criteria Principles](#) and [Assurance Criteria Checklist](#).

Source:<http://www.theprsb.org.uk>

Information Model of the LRA

The Logical Record Architecture for health and social care uses the normative parts of BS EN 13606-1:2007 - "Health informatics. Electronic health record communication. Reference model."

BS EN 13606-1 is a European standard that aims to define a rigorous and stable information architecture for communicating part or all of the Electronic Health Record (EHR) of a single subject of care (patient).

This is to support the interoperability of systems and components that need to communicate (access, transfer, add or modify) EHR data via electronic messages or as distributed objects:

- Preserving the original clinical meaning intended by the author
- Reflecting the confidentiality of that data as intended by the author and patient.

It may also be used for EHR communication between an EHR system or repository and clinical applications or middleware components (such as decision support components) that need to access or provide EHR data.

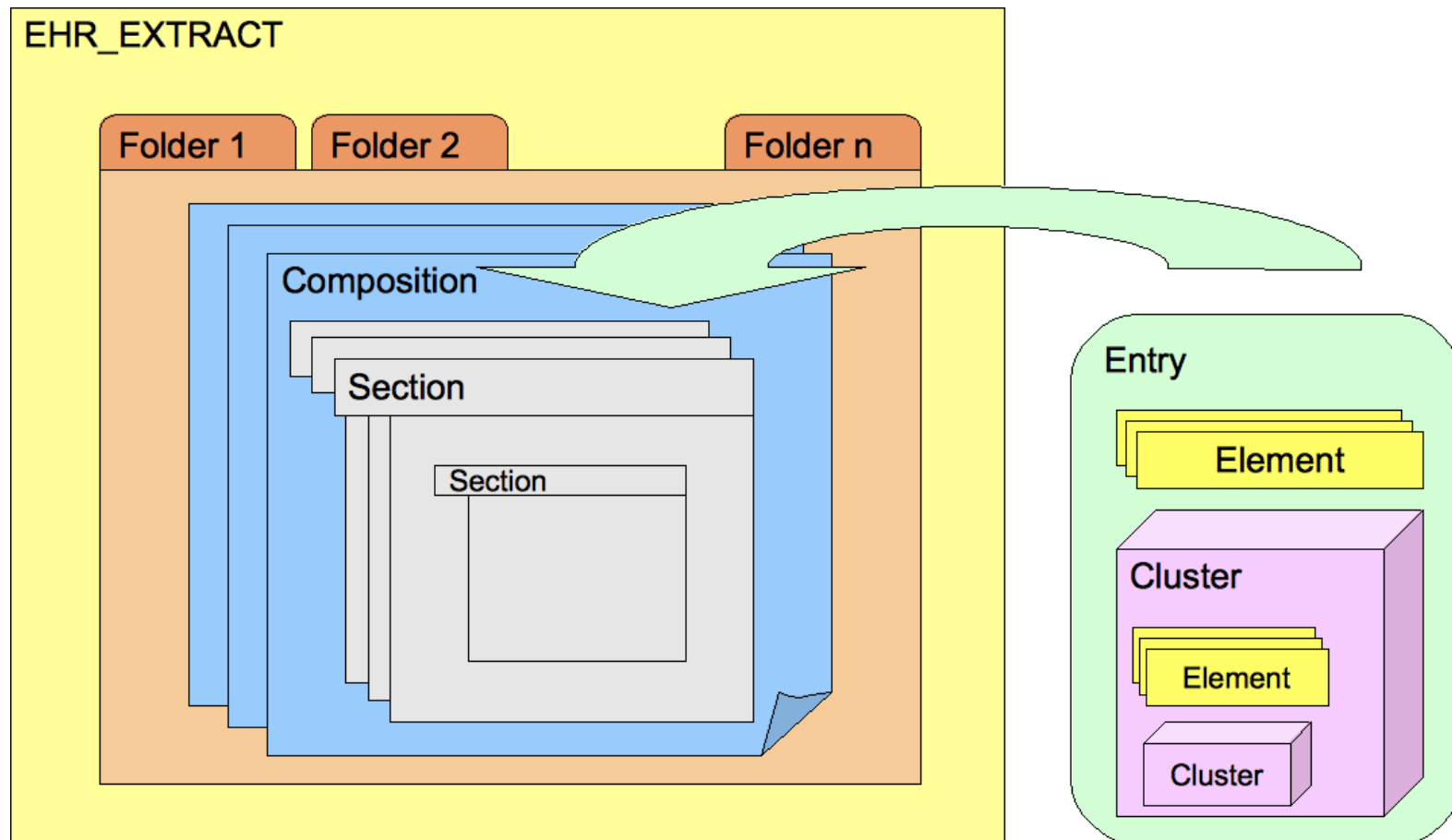
Source: <http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/systemsandservices/data/lra/international>

EN 13606 and OpenEHR

For further information on EN 13606, see <http://www.en13606.org/>

The openEHR Framework is the basis of this new Electronic Health Record Communication Standard (EN 13606).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EN_13606



OpenEHR

The principal challenge for health ICT is to represent the semantics of the sector, which are far more complex than in other industries.

Doing this requires a knowledge-oriented computing framework that includes ontologies, terminology and a semantically enabled health computing platform in which complex meaning can be represented and shared.

At the same time it must support the economically viable construction of maintainable and adaptable health computing systems and patient-centric electronic health records (EHRs).

Technically, openEHR is about creating specifications, open source software and tools for such a platform.

In the clinical space, it is about creating high-quality, re-usable clinical models of content and process - known as archetypes - along with formal interfaces to terminology.

<http://www.openEHR.org>

OpenEHR - Archetypes

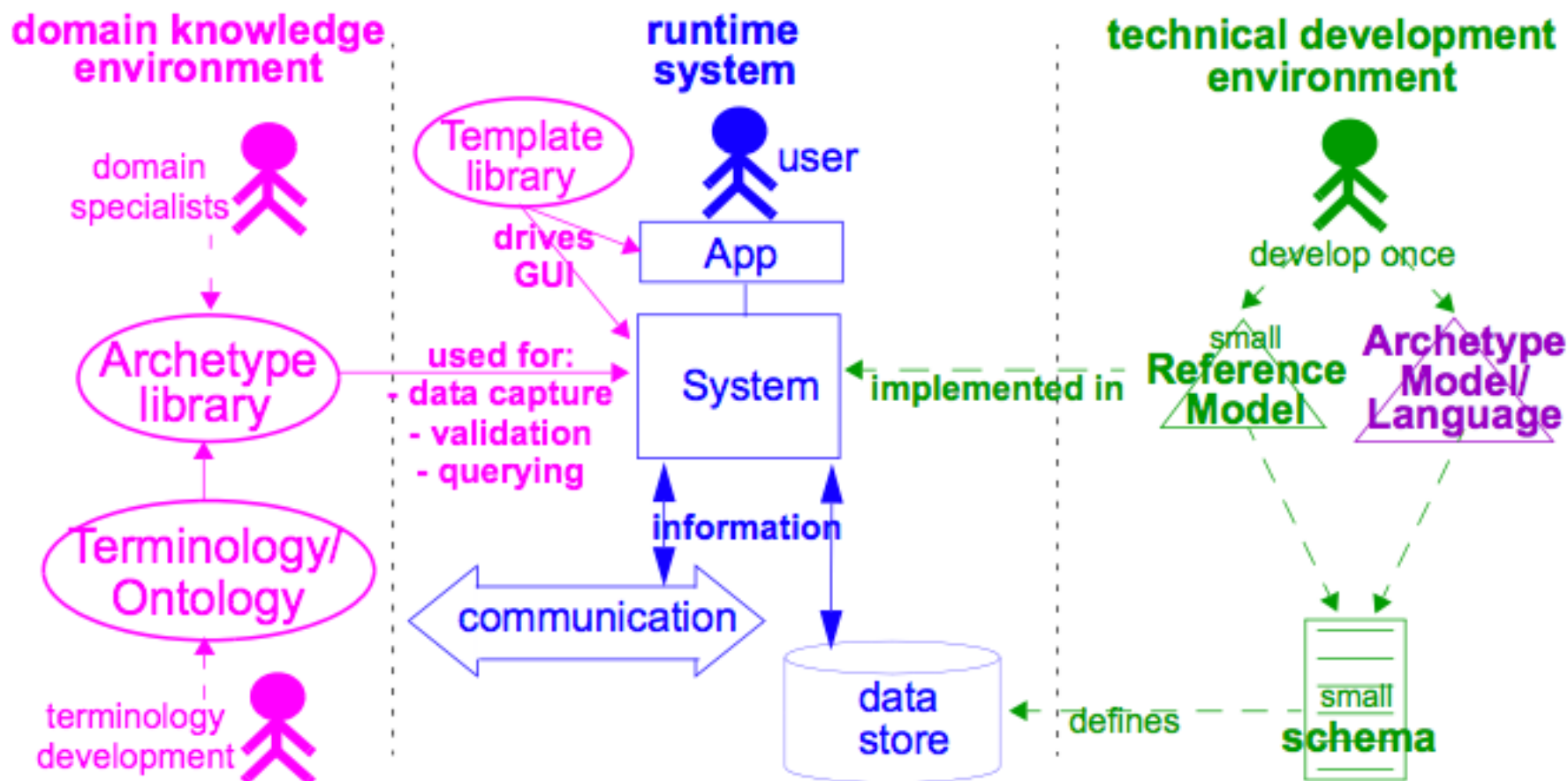
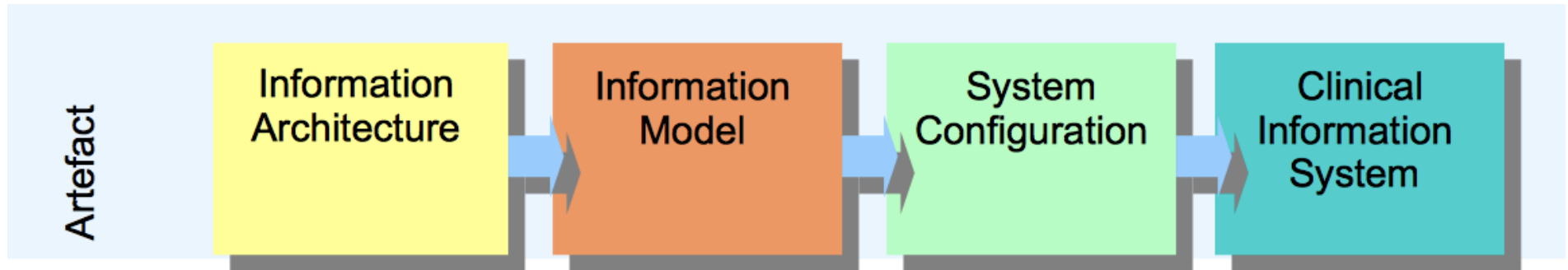


FIGURE 6 Two-level Software Engineering

Beale T, Heard S (eds). OpenEHR Architecture Overview. The OpenEHR Foundation. Available from <http://www.openehr.org>

The cityEHR Modelling Process

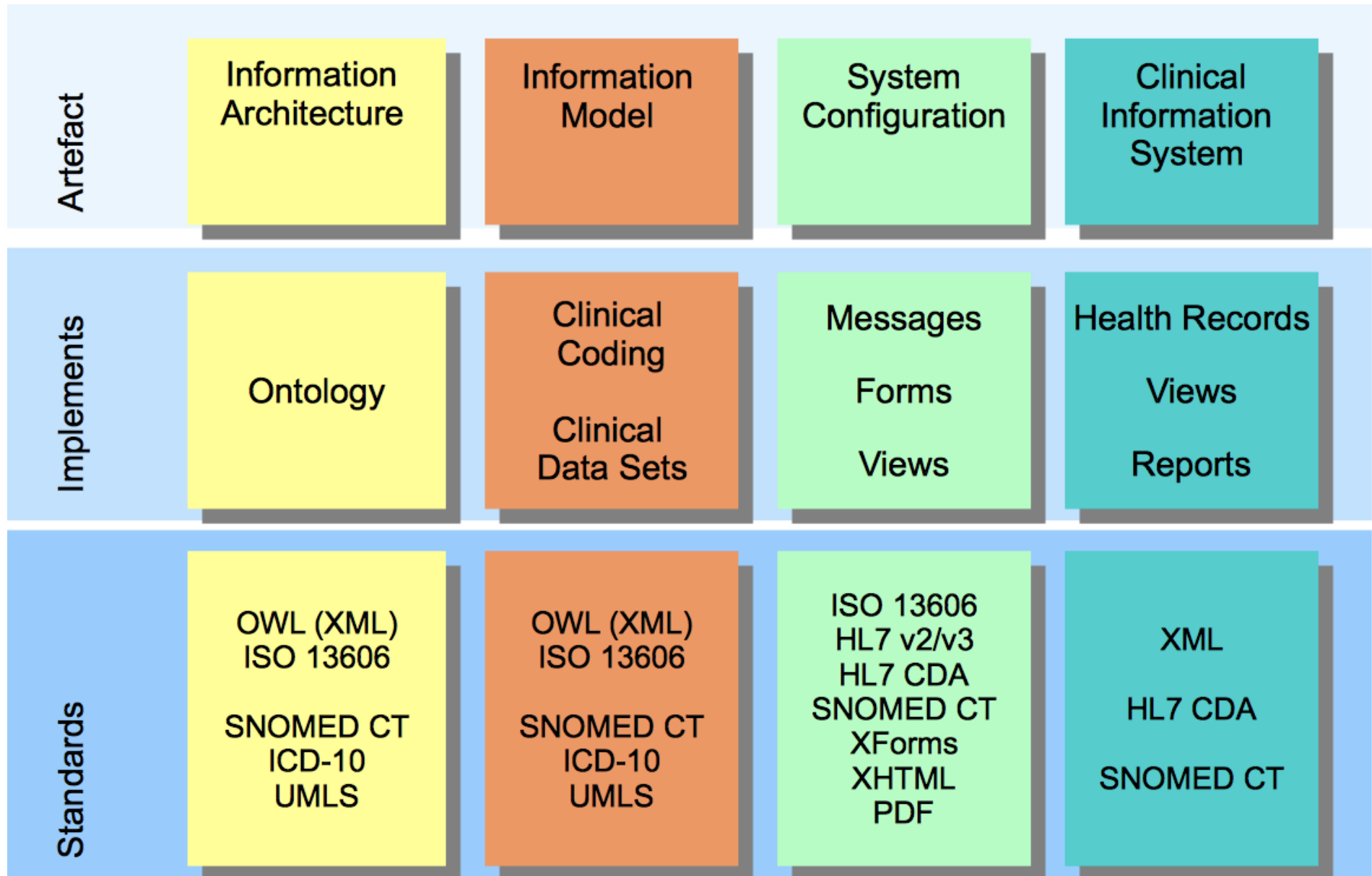


<http://openhealthinformatics.org>

Four stage modelling process

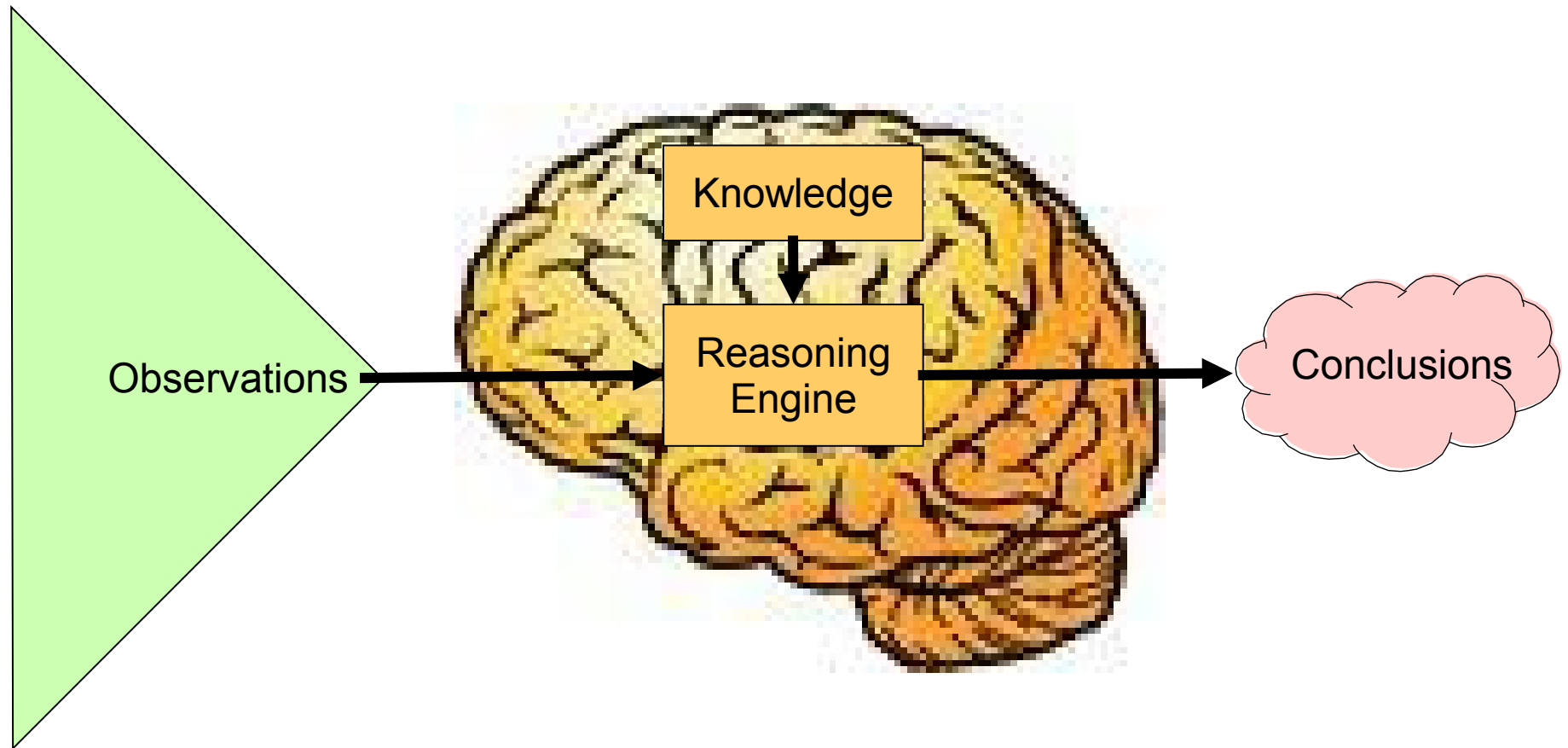
- Information Architecture ensures that all models are consistent and can interoperate
- Information model allows each application to model healthcare data in the most appropriate way, based on the application requirements
- System Configuration is generated automatically from the model and is optimised for the runtime EHR system
- Clinical Information System stores and manipulates data based on standards that allow interchange with any EHR system

Detail of cityEHR Modelling Process



Information and knowledge for clinical decisions

How Knowledge Fuels Reasoning



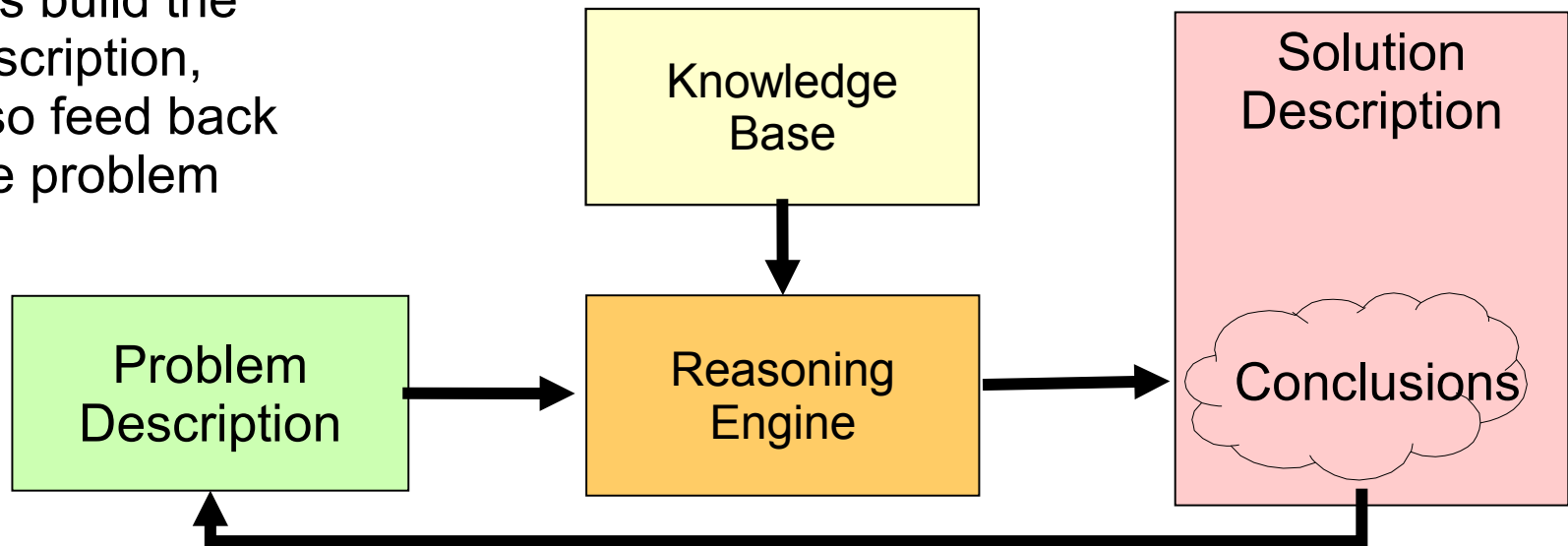
- Observations provide information on current context (problem)
- Knowledge base and observations are inputs to a reasoning engine
- Reasoning engine generates conclusions relevant to current context, based on observations and knowledge

Reasoning Engine

A reasoning engine is a computer program that tries to derive answers from a knowledge base.

It is the “brain” that knowledge based systems use to reason about the information in the knowledge base, for the ultimate purpose of formulating new conclusions.

Conclusions build the solution description, but may also feed back to refine the problem description



Knowledge Based Systems

A knowledge based system, is a computer program that contains some of the subject-specific knowledge of one or more human experts

- The principal distinction between knowledge based systems and traditional problem solving programs is the way in which the problem related expertise (knowledge) is coded

procedural

- In traditional applications, problem expertise is encoded in both program and data structures.
- In knowledge based systems all of the problem related expertise is encoded in data structures only; none is in programs

declarative

Map of Medicine

<http://www.mapofmedicine.com/>

The screenshot displays the Map of Medicine website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'mapofmedicine' logo, a 'Contact details' link, and a 'Back to Home' button. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'About the Map of Medicine' with a sub-heading 'Quick access to best practice guidelines'. The main content area contains three paragraphs: the first describes the site's purpose as a quick access to clinical information; the second states it was created by healthcare professionals for healthcare professionals; the third mentions it is constantly evolving. To the right of the main content, there are two contact links: 'sales@medictomedic.com' and 'info@medictomedic.com'. Below the text, there is a section titled 'What the Map does' with a sub-heading 'Quick access to best practice guidelines' and a list of features: 'Authoritative, evidence-based information', 'Inclusive of all major clinical areas', 'Enabler of local development of best practices', 'What the Map gives you', 'Safe and effective point of care treatment', 'Promotion of best practices', and 'Support for multi-disciplinary'. At the bottom of the screenshot, a clinical decision tree for 'Jaundice' is visible, with a 'Key' section and a 'Click here for more info' button.

- Developed by medic-to-medic, now owned by Informa Healthcare
- Over 250 'patient journeys' mapping out the steps to be taken by clinicians

NHS Clinical Summaries (PRODIGY)

<http://www.cks.nhs.uk>


- Sowerby Centre for Health Informatics at Newcastle (SCHIN) developed, and keeps up-to-date, around 170 guidance topics for both acute and chronic illnesses
- PRODIGY guidance offers advice on the management of conditions and symptoms that are commonly seen in primary care.
- PRODIGY Drugs lists the drugs recommended by PRODIGY, and links them to the condition and situation in which they are recommended

The screenshot shows the NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries (CKS) website. At the top, it features the NICE logo (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence) and navigation links for 'NICE Pathways' and 'Evidence Services'. The main header includes the 'CKS Clinical Knowledge Summaries' logo and a search bar. Below the header, there are two tabs: 'Clinical Topic A-Z' (selected) and 'Clinical Speciality'. A large graphic of a human eye is in the background. On the left, a grid of letters from A to X is displayed. On the right, a list of clinical topics is shown, including: Achilles tendinopathy, Acne vulgaris, Addison's disease, Adverse drug reactions, Alcohol - problem drinking, Allergic rhinitis, Alopecia areata, Alopecia, androgenetic - female, Alopecia, androgenetic - male, Amenorrhoea, Anaemia - B12 and folate deficiency, Anaemia - iron deficiency, Anal fissure, Analgesia - mild-to-moderate pain, Angina, Angio-oedema and anaphylaxis, Ankylosing spondylitis, Antenatal care - uncomplicated pregnancy, Anticoagulation - oral, Antiplatelet treatment, Aphthous ulcer, Asthma, Atrial fibrillation, and Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Below the screenshot, the text reads: 'NICE Clinical Knowledge Summaries' followed by a welcome message: 'Welcome to the NICE CKS service which provides primary care practitioners with a readily accessible summary of the current evidence base and practical guidance on best practice in respect of over 300 common and/or significant primary care presentations.'

National Service Frameworks

<http://www.nhs.uk/nhsengland/NSF/pages/Nationalserviceframeworks.aspx>

- National service frameworks (NSFs) are long term strategies for improving specific areas of care. They set measurable goals within set time frames.
- Coronary Heart Disease
National Cancer Plan
Mental Health
Older People
Diabetes
Long Term Conditions
Renal Services
Children's Services

National electronic Library for Health  27th July 2006

[NHS Direct Online](#) [nhs.uk](#) [Department of Health](#) [Social Care](#) [Public Health](#)

[NeLH Homepage](#) → [NSF Home](#)

National Service Frameworks

NLH and National Service Frameworks

This section of the library provides a gateway to information relating to the National Service Frameworks.

NLH Specialist Libraries which cover NSF areas are working to include relevant resources within a dedicated NSF section in their site. The following are already available:

- [Coronary Heart Disease](#) (Cardiovascular Diseases Specialist Library)
- [Children's Services](#) (Child Health Specialist Library)
- [Diabetes](#) (Diabetes Specialist Library)

NSF sections within other Specialist Libraries are planned.

Department of Health

National Service Framework policy documentation and updates on the DH website:

- [Coronary Heart Disease](#)
- [National Cancer Plan](#)
- [Mental Health](#)
- [Older People](#)
- [Diabetes](#)
- [Long Term Conditions](#)
- [Renal Services](#)
- [Children's Services](#)

NSF coverage in Scotland and Wales

- [Scottish Service Frameworks](#)
- [Wales Service Frameworks](#)

RSS Feeds

You can receive RSS updates and current awareness news services on NSF topics - the following feeds are provided by the Trent Improvement Network in collaboration with NLH:

- [Cancer Plan](#)
- [Children's NSF](#)
- [Diabetes NSF](#)
- [Mental Health NSF](#)
- [Older People's NSF](#)
- [Renal Services NSF](#)

Other Resources

Health Management Specialist Library - Management Topics

A Manager's Guide to Implementation of the NSF's - [go there](#)

NatPACT

The National Primary and Care Trust Development Programme (NatPACT) have developed a set of resources for PCTs which can be used as a development tool, and to

Clinical Evidence Best Treatments

www.clinicalevidence.org
www.besttreatments.org

And similar resources
from Walters Kluwer
John Wiley
Thomson Medical
Zinx

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Clinical Evidence website. The browser's address bar shows the URL <http://www.clinicalevidence.com/ceweb/conditions/index.jsp>. The website header features the 'clinical evidence' logo, the tagline 'The international source of the best available evidence for effective health care', and the BMJ logo. A navigation menu includes links for 'CONDITIONS', 'ABOUT US', 'PRODUCTS', 'CONTRIBUTE', 'RESOURCES', and 'CONTACT US'. On the left side, there is a search box and a list of 'SECTIONS' including Blood and lymph disorders, Cardiovascular disorders, Child health, Digestive system disorders, ENT, Endocrine and Metabolic Disorders, Eye disorders, HIV and AIDS, Infectious diseases, Lifestyle, Men's health, and Mental health. The main content area welcomes visitors and provides information about the site's scope, including a dropdown menu for '213 conditions in depth'. It also highlights 'New enhanced CE' and 'New and updated topics'. On the right side, there are logos for 'Free access provided by' NHS and National Library for Health, 'Health of Wales Information Service', 'WHAT'S NEW' featuring 'bmjlearning', and 'BestTreatments'.

The Cochrane Library (www.cochrane.org)

- A collection of databases that contain high-quality, independent evidence to inform healthcare decision-making.
- Now owned by John Wiley Ltd

The screenshot shows the homepage of The Cochrane Library. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Wiley InterScience home', 'Home', 'About Cochrane', 'Access to Cochrane', 'For Authors', and 'Help'. The main header features the Cochrane logo and the text 'The Cochrane Library Evidence for healthcare decision-making'. Below this, there are sections for 'BROWSE' (with links for Cochrane Reviews and Other Resources) and 'SEARCH' (with a search box and 'Go' button). A central banner reads 'Welcome to The Cochrane Library' and describes the library's mission. To the right, there are sections for 'Help! New Users Start Here', 'For Clinicians', 'For Researchers', 'For Patients', and 'For Policy Makers'. At the bottom left, there is a section for 'What's New in Issue 3, 2006?' listing new reviews and protocols. At the bottom right, there is a promotional box for 'Evidence-Based Child Health' with a 'FREE complimentary access' offer.

Bandolier

- The first issue of Bandolier, an independent journal about evidence-based healthcare, written by Oxford scientists, was printed in February 1994.
- It has appeared monthly ever since and has become the premier source of evidence based healthcare information in the UK and worldwide for both healthcare professionals and consumers.

Address <http://www.jr2.ox.ac.uk/bandolier/knowledge.html>

 **Bandolier**
"Evidence based thinking about health care"

Search
advanced search

Homepage About Us Email Alert Bandolier Journal Oxford Pain Site

Alphabetical listing | Category listing

Bandolier Knowledge

In this section **Bandolier** collects good quality evidence under a variety of different headings. We search for systematic reviews of treatments, of evidence about diagnosis, epidemiology or health economics, and abstract it. It is time consuming, and **Bandolier** has been able to do it only through sponsorship, which is a limiting factor. Sponsorship is acknowledged at the top of each topic heading. The fundamental criterion is that sponsors have no say or control whatsoever. Users who know of no-strings funding to maintain our independent status, please let us know.

Donate to **Bandolier!** 

- > Knowledge Library
- > Healthy Living Zone 
- > Extended Essays
- > Learning Zone
- > EBM Glossary

Alphabetical Listing

A	B	C
Acute pain	Back pain	Cancer
Alcohol, coffee, tea	Benign prostatic hyperplasia	Cancer pain
Allergy, asthma and respiratory	Blood pressure	Cardiac
Arthritis, bones and joints	Book reviews	Chronic pain
Aspirin		Claudication
Atrial fibrillation		Complementary

British National Formulary

www.bnf.org

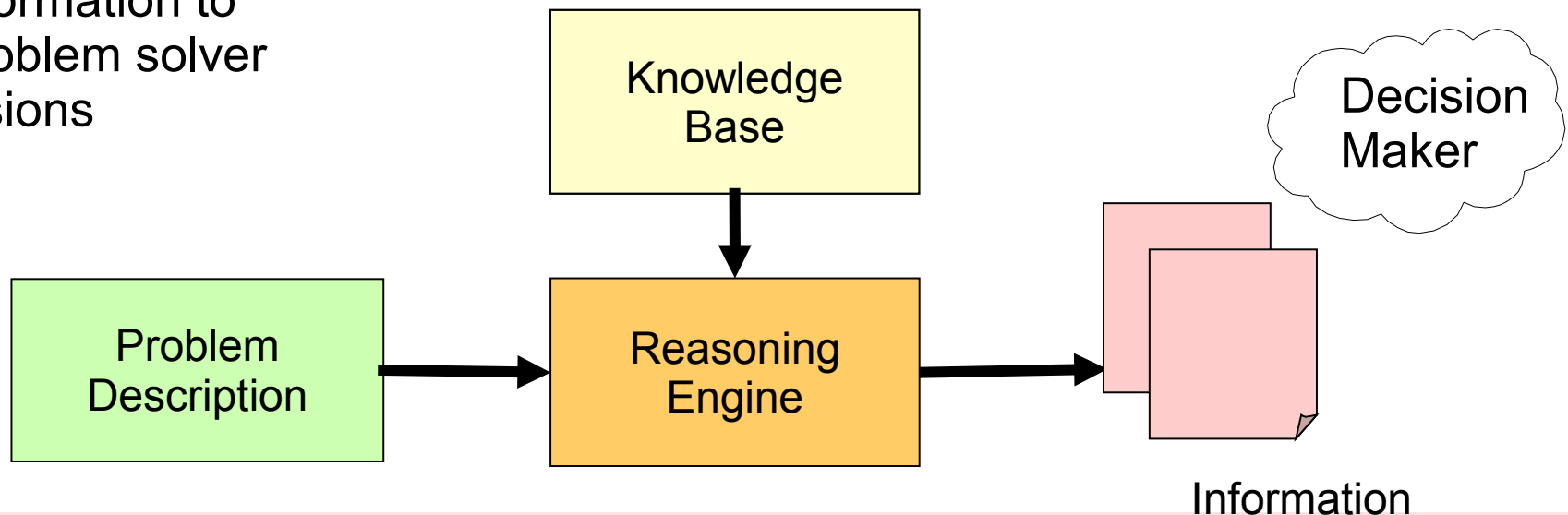
The screenshot shows the British National Formulary (BNF) website as it appeared in 2005. The browser window title is "BNF.org: - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by CSW Group Ltd". The address bar shows "http://www.bnf.org/bnf/". The website layout includes a navigation menu on the left with links for BNF 49, BNF Extra, Updates, About Us, Resources, Products, Links, Frequently Asked Questions, Feedback, Policies, and Registration. A search box is located below the menu. The main content area features a header "British National Formulary" and a central image of a hand holding a pipette with the text "clear • concise • accessible". Below this, a blue box states: "The BNF provides UK healthcare professionals with authoritative and practical information on the selection and clinical use of medicines in a clear, concise and accessible manner." A "REGISTER" button is provided for users to view the latest BNF content. On the right side, there is a red banner for "BNF 49 March 2005 ENTER" and a "NEWS" section with a headline: "European suspension of valdecoxib (Bextra®)". The news text mentions that EMEA has announced a voluntary suspension of Bextra sales and marketing, and that DaunoXome is featured in BNF 48 (September 2004). A link to "BNF response to new study on medication use during pregnancy" is also visible.

Decision Support System

An interactive, flexible, and adaptable computer-based information system, especially developed for supporting the solution of a non-structured management problem for improved decision making.

It utilizes data, provides an easy-to-use interface, and allows for the decision maker's own insights.

Reasoning Engine
delivers information to
help the problem solver
make decisions

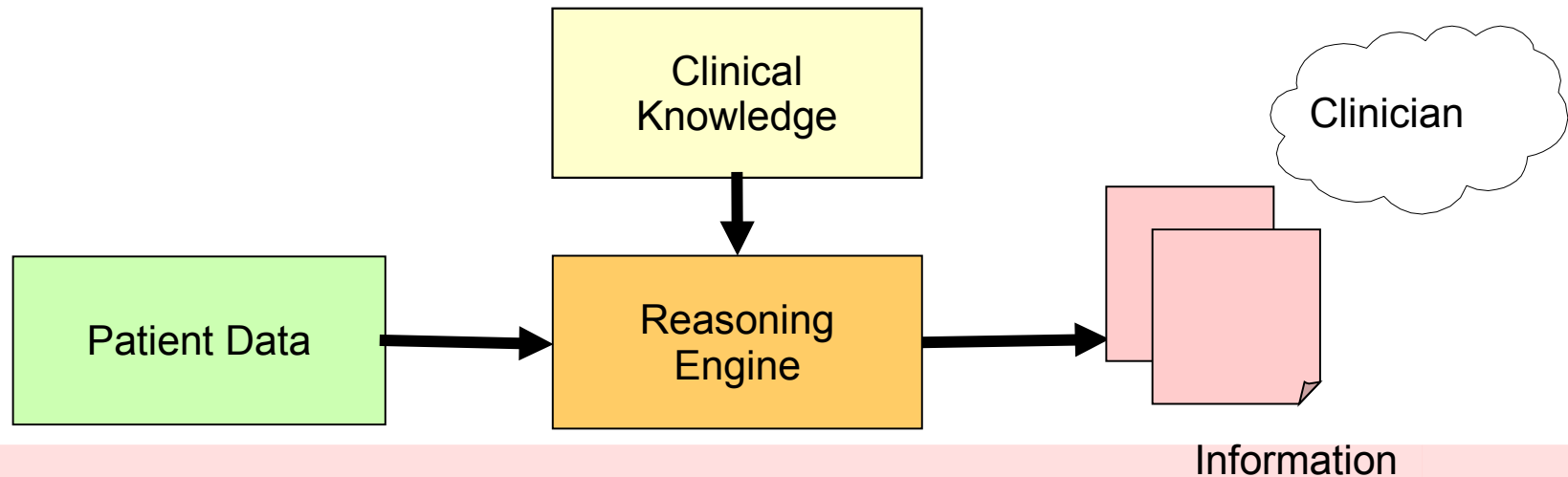


Clinical Decision Support System

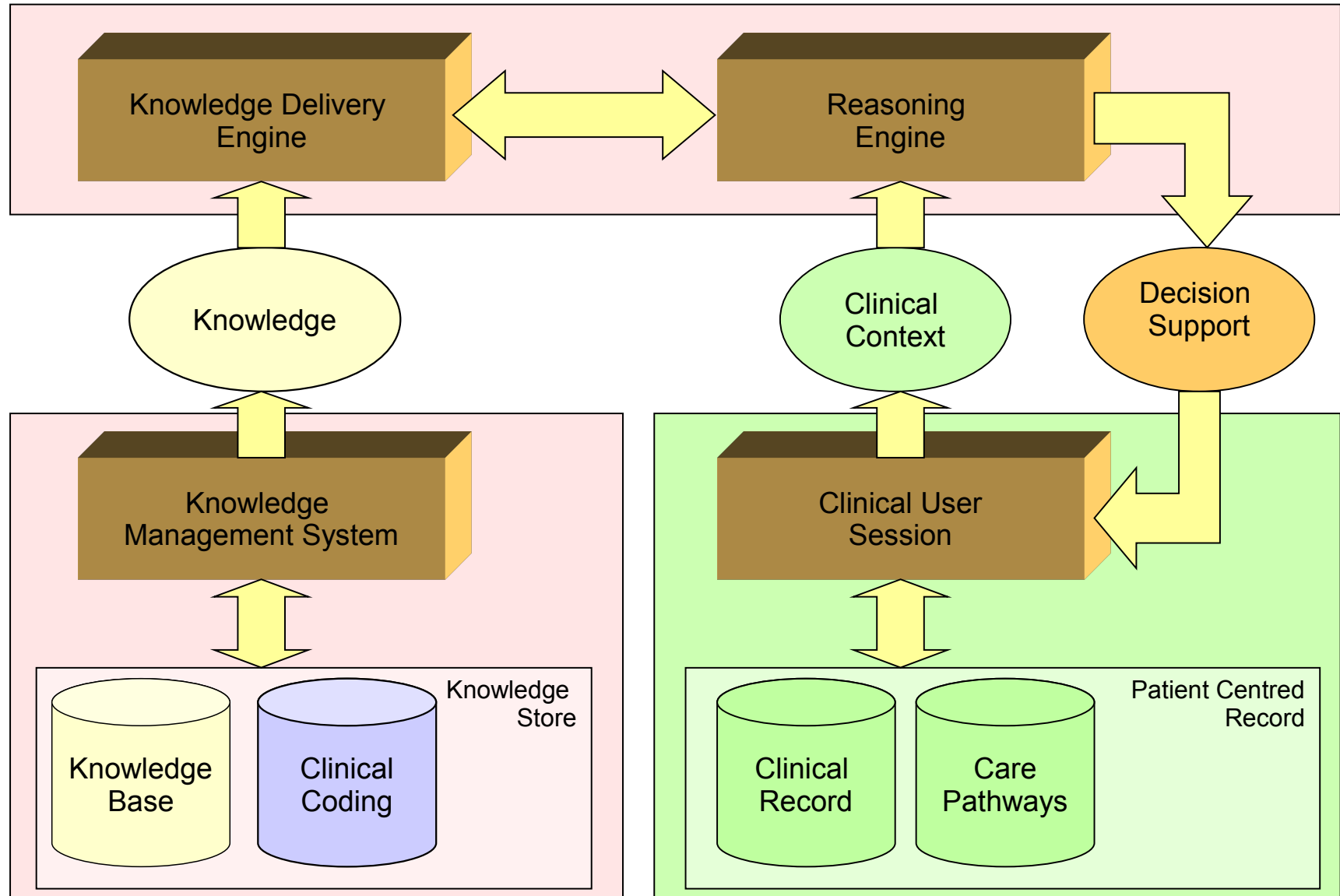
Clinical Decision Support Systems are "active knowledge systems which use two or more items of patient data to generate case-specific advice".⁵

Clinical Decision Support Systems are typically designed to integrate a medical knowledge base, patient data and an inference engine to generate case specific advice.

- This definition and much other useful information can be found at www.openclinical.org



The Full Nine Yards



References and Further Reading

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2. Lord Darzi. High quality care for all: NHS Next Stage Review final report. DH. ISBN 978-0-10-174322-8
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